

DECLASSIFIED

SECRET

- 128 -

wait a few precious seconds were in vain, so we hove the child aboard, and left her looking woe-begone and in the wrong carriage. Fortunately, the porter appeared just in time to get the suitcases on, complaining bitterly to the Conductor, "Hein, je n'acceuille pas une crise cardiaque."

Sunday, May 24, 1959

Bright sunshine. Spent the morning at the office, discussing and disputing future tactics. Lunched Chez Roberto, walked, read and sallied forth to dine with E, Loftie and Joe Alsop, just arrived from Budapest.

Before doing so, Mr. Krebs ~~had~~ called from the Delegation office to tell me of Foster's death this morning in Washington. The funeral is to be at 2 p.m. Wednesday in the National Cathedral. I am to get word to the Chancellor. Chris Herter will probably leave here Tuesday afternoon, and return for a Conference session on Friday, although this has not yet been arranged. It is dreadfully sad, although for a long time there has been no hope.

Had word tonight from Harry Schwartz that Adenauer is going to Washington..

Historians will compare Dean and Foster as Secretaries of State. So different in temperament and technique, it is a fascinating subject. ~~consequently~~ ^{readily} I would award the palm to Acheson, but

DECLASSIFIED

SECRET

REF ID: A66087

SECRET

- 129 -

Dulles was a truly amazing and impressive personality. By sheer pertinacity, mentality, and will, after a period of great unpopularity, ~~and~~ foreign ~~and~~ domestic, he imposed his views on the Atlantic Alliance, and became its undisputed leader. Few men have ever possessed an intellectual apparatus superior to his. His brain was an entire foreign office. Criticized for not taking more counsel from his staff, the truth is he felt little need for advice, though he listened patiently to suggestions from those he respected or thought politically important. The ultimate decisions were his own. Happily for him, he possessed, in unmeasured degree, the confidence of President Eisenhower, and was therefore properly regarded as the supreme chief of American Foreign Policy. The relationship between Janet and himself was ideal. I do not know anything of his attitude to other subordinates, but, as far as I was personally concerned, his consideration for my views was invariably indulgent, and his sponsorship of them, when accepted, was complete. I never knew him really well, though his brother Allen has been my long-time friend, and I fancy some of Foster's steady kindness to me was influenced by my friendship for Allen and, in regard to European unity, by my close association with Jean Monnet with whom he was on intimate terms.

He was quite spartan in his love of camp life and swimming in icy water, though sybaritic in his appreciation of food and wine, until

REF ID: A66087

SECRET

REF ID: A66570
SECRET

- 130 -

for reasons of health he had to eschew the use of his well-chosen cellar. Afterwards, he confined himself to drinking Overholt rye whiskey, and abandoned tobacco, though offering his guests the best of those Havana cigars he ~~was~~ once smoked with acute enjoyment. His sense of morality was deep, though often too obtrusive, and sometimes compromised by what he considered parochial political necessities. It was best expressed in depth in his interchanges with Adenauer, a fundamentally religious man. In sum, he was a truly significant figure, who ~~was~~ wrested from life many of its strongly held gifts. His unflinching gallantry in illness has lent to his last days what may prove to be an evanescent sentimentality, but it is pleasing to contemplate how touched and sustained he must have been, in his physical distress, by the tributes he almost unanimously received.

Monday, May 25, 1959

Office in the morning, and again I counselled forcing the Soviets to make the first move to break the impasse. Had a talk with an old friend, Roger Massip, Diplomatic Correspondent of Le Figaro, and one this afternoon with John Hightower. Members of our delegation are preparing to scatter for a few days while Herter goes to Washington. I talked to him again about my own plans and all seems settled for September.

Received an "Eyes Only" this morning from Loy Henderson

REF ID: A66570
SECRET